

- 7 -

04645.0558

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 8 and 10 to 13 are pending. No claims are allowed, and claim 13 is new.

1. The Applicants would like to thank Examiners Steven Kalafut and Gregg Cantelmo for the time they took on December 17, 2003, to discuss the merits of the application and pending claims with their attorney.

2. Claims 1 to 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Loewen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,712,299). The relevance of Loewen et al. has been thoroughly discussed in the amendments filed April 1, May 29, September 15, and October 7, 2003.

Independent claims 1, 5 and 11 have been amended to set forth that each of the current collectors has a thickness defined by an intermediate peripheral edge meeting with planar first and second major faces. The entire extent of the first and second major faces extending to the peripheral edge is oriented generally parallel to each other such that the planar current collectors are separable from the support member with an active material being contactable to the first and second major faces to provide an electrode for an electrochemical cell or capacitor.

This claimed aspect of the Applicants' invention means that when the current collectors are connected to the elongate support member during the manufacturing process,

- 8 -

04645.0558

their major faces are oriented generally parallel to each other until the manufacturing process is complete. After manufacture of the current collectors is finished, they may very well be further processed into electrochemical cells where they will be formed or manipulated into non-planar orientations, such as, for example, a jellyroll electrode assembly or the folded wing assembly described in U.S. Patent No. 5,250,373 to Muffoletto et al.

In their presently amended form, pending independent claims 1, 5 and 11 are believed to include novel structure in light of the referenced Loewen et al. patent. Claims 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 are allowable as hinging from patentable base claims.

Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

2. Claims 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loewen et al. in view of Cobaugh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,803,537). The teachings of Cobaugh et al. are essentially as set forth by the Examiner. However, claims 10 and 12 depend from amended independent claims 5 and 11, respectively. In their amended form, these independent claims are believed to be patentable over Loewen et al., and the teachings of Cobaugh et al. do not destroy this. Accordingly, claims 10 and 12 are believed to be allowable as hinging from patentable base claims.

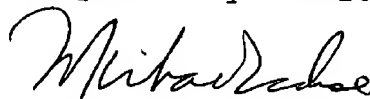
Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

- 9 -

04645.0558

It is believed that claims 1 to 8 and 10 to 13 are now in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael F. Scalise
Reg. No. 34,920

Wilson Greatbatch Technologies, Inc.
10,000 Wehrle Drive
Clarence, New York 14031
(716) 759-5810
December 18, 2003